

GOV. FRENCH'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS.
SPRINGFIELD, December 8, 1846.
Fellow Citizens of the Senate,
and House of Representatives:

In presenting myself before you for the first time, previous to assuming the responsibility of my official duties, I cannot permit the occasion to pass without making known to the people of this State the deep sense of gratitude that I feel for this marked expression of their confidence; and I know of no way in which I can more fully express the sense of the obligation under which I feel myself placed, than by the ready manifestation of an earnest desire to discharge all the duties which may be imposed upon me by the constitution and laws of the State, with a careful regard to the wants, wishes and interests of the people.

During the past season, an ever-kind and watchful Providence has crowned the labors of industry with all needful blessings; preserved all the great interests of State; and secured to the people generally, the unimpaired continuance of social, civil, and religious liberty.

These priceless blessings, so far superior to those enjoyed by the great majority of mankind, demand of us the profoundest gratitude to the Great Giver of them all.

While favored with a rich profusion for all our temporal wants, we have cause, also, to rejoice in the rapidly reviving prosperity of the country generally, and a comparative relief from the financial embarrassments, which for a long time pressed so heavily upon the hopes and energies of the people. Blinded and misled by a false and deceptive view of the true state of things; encouraged on our side by the glitter of a delusive prosperity; we were incautiously drawn into measures, seriously involving the hopes and expectations of individuals, and the interests of the State.

It is unnecessary to enter minutely into the causes which led to our present State embarrassment, as they have been often repeated, and are familiarly known to all. From the general features, exhaustless fertility of soil, peculiar adaptation and natural resources of our State, it seems clear, that, for a long time to come, the agricultural will continue to be the predominant interest. The current of business and the habits of our people, as well as a sound enlightened public policy, render the maxim, that "few laws are required to answer all the purposes of good government," peculiarly applicable to our condition.

These laws ought to be plain and simple, interfering as little as possible with the free, voluntary employment of capital and labor. Perhaps one of the most striking features in our American forms of Government, is seen in the fact, that a large portion of the delegated powers are designed to operate in a kind of negative character, to be employed rather in restraining the action of those whose interests or inclinations would lead them to disturb the general community of rights which are free alike to all, than to direct or control the various kinds and relations of business and industry. If there is any thing which distinguishes the nature and character of our institutions from those of any other nation, it may be found in that freedom from restraint accorded to every man, to pursue whatever calling his inclination or interest may dictate, provided he encroach not upon the rights of others.

If it be true that but few general laws are needed to answer the wants and interests of a free people, it is also true, that frequent changes in our public statutes may become a serious grievance.

Experience teaches, that, with the exception of extreme cases, it is usually far more prudent to wait patiently the operation of a law, until its results can be fully known, than to change it for another whose effect upon the general interest can neither be estimated nor foreseen. It is believed that the too common ambition for change of laws, peculiar to new States, for every seeming imperfection or inconvenience, may be more laudably employed in removing real defects in existing laws, than by frequent radical changes in the old, or an accumulation of new laws. To frame a judicious system of laws, founded upon the principles of free government, and in exact harmony with its wisely adapted to the wants, interests and necessities of the people, embracing all their most important rights and duties, but not so extensively minute as to become irksome, inquisitorial or oppressive, is an object much to be desired, though seldom realized. It is impossible to shut our eyes to errors which are spread out upon the page of our legislative history; or the difficulty, as regards some of them, of seeking out and applying the proper remedy. In all our endeavors to effect this object, and without which little permanent good can be expected to follow, harmony and concert of action are indispensable. Whatever is done, ought to be done with united counsel.

I shall not enter into any elaborate statistical detail of the present financial condition of our public affairs. This comes more properly from my predecessor. That the State is deeply in debt, is well known; and it should also be known, that there exists among the people an earnest desire that some method may be adopted under which it may be discharged. We have borrowed money from our creditors, for the payment of which the faith of the State is solemnly pledged, and we have applied it at our discretion. There then remains for us but one course to pursue, without entailing upon the State unmitigated contempt and disgrace. That is, to go as far as our means will justify in making provision for its payment. I am rejoiced to know that the doctrine of repudiation of our liabilities, finds but very few, if any, supporters in this State. If we glance over the history of the few past years, we shall find that many of the most serious causes of discouragement and alarm are being gradually removed; and if we look to the future, we shall there see

strong signs of encouragement. The large amount of our private indebtedness is greatly diminished. The increasing sales of the public lands, the unexampled increase in the number of our population, and consequently wealth, a fair market price for our produce in a comparatively sound currency—all furnish unmistakable evidence of increasing prosperity, and of our advancement in all the means of substantial improvement and wealth. To these may be added the late arrangement entered into with the holders of Canal Bonds, by which we have the assurance that the canal will be completed at an early day. If the bond holders shall fully comply with the stipulations agreed upon, it is confidently expected that the State will fulfil all obligations resting upon her. When this great work shall be completed, I feel confident that the revenue to be derived from it, with the other means designed to promote that work, will, in a few years, be adequate to the discharge of the entire canal debt; leaving the internal improvement, with some other miscellaneous items of indebtedness, to be provided for. It is not to be disguised, that any attempt to make effectual provision for the payment of our public debt, must encounter difficulties. It is apparent that there exists in the public mind a kind of vague and painful apprehension, that the efforts now making by the people to meet a portion of our indebtedness, are of little avail, and that they are wasting their energies to very little purpose. The uncertainty which hangs over the exact amount of our liabilities, has contributed much to produce this unfortunate state of the public feeling, and can only be corrected by the adoption of some course which shall elicit its true amount. It is conceived that this may be done at small expense, and with no great difficulty. I do not feel myself called upon at present to recommend any increase of taxation; but it occurs to me, that, with the exception of the canal debt, the best plan we can adopt in the present condition of our public affairs, is, to make provision for immediately refunding the residue—By refunding the bonds and scrip, the debt will be converted into one uniform transferable stock. This will require but small expense, probably less than we have already suffered by counterfeits, and will possess the advantage of reducing the whole matter into a clear and tangible shape. For the arrear of interest due upon the bonds, a deferred stock of similar character might be issued, differing only in that it bears no interest for a number of years. By adopting this line of policy with our State bonds and scrip, our debt will not be increased, while we shall be enabled to ascertain the precise amount of our existing liabilities with certainty, and the amount required to meet the interest. To this course, it is believed our creditors will interpose no objection, but cheerfully acquiesce, as it will relieve them from risks to which they are now exposed. It will also remove difficulties which lie in the way of the payment of interest by any one not familiar with the character of the different forms of our indebtedness, some of which arise out of the relation which the several issues of our State Bonds bear to each other.

All our available means ought gradually to be brought into such condition that they can be applied to the payment of our debts. As it is doubtful if any appropriation will be hereafter made by the Legislature to put in repair the railroad from Springfield to Meredosia, it may be of advantage to the State to dispose of it on some terms, with the provision that it be kept in repair and operation. The State lands ought also to be brought into market, to be disposed of at fair prices; and all debts due to the State from individuals or corporations, put in train for speedy adjustment. An opportunity will soon be afforded the people, under an amended Constitution, of reducing the number of the members of the Legislature, by which thousands may be saved to the State, and a stricter economy, generally, introduced into the public service.

At the time of the passage of the law requiring the banks of this State to put their affairs in process of liquidation, there were those who honestly doubted the propriety of a measure so stringent in its provisions, and who looked forward with apprehension to disasters which they feared would follow from it. But time has fully justified its object, and the expediency of its general provisions; and we may date the commencement of our returning prosperity to the passage of that law.

When its provisions shall have been fully carried out, banking institutions in this State will be at an end; and it becomes a question of serious magnitude to the people, whether sound policy will justify the establishment of another, when we may look forward with almost positive certainty to a repetition of the same scenes through which we have so lately passed.

A few years have taught us many things connected with this subject, which we were slow to learn. From an habitual and unwary confidence in the integrity of banking institutions, we came at last to look upon them as almost indispensably necessary; and principles gradually but silently crept into their charters, which have wrought deep and lasting injury to the country, and virtually subverted some of those principles which government was founded in an especial manner to cherish and preserve. The series of evils which incorporate banking has brought into existence, find their main source in the power given to banks to trade upon credit instead of money—to loan simple promissory notes instead of cash—not to loan only, but create the currency; and an utter exemption from individual liability; besides placing this very power in the hands of those whose interests often prompt to its abuse, and against which it is scarcely possible to interpose any efficient legislative restraint. It seems to me that the interests of the people of this

State will be better promoted by hereafter dispensing with banks altogether, than again to take their chance upon such a sea of uncertainty and confusion as they have lately passed. If we form an opinion from the current of events which have attended the winding up of the affairs of our banks, even under the disadvantage of coercing the payment of a heavy bank indebtedness, the advancing prosperity of the State, the restoration of a sound currency, taken in connection with the agricultural character of our people, it can hardly be doubted that capital will as readily seek this State for investment—as securely invested, as well as safely and properly managed—as constantly employed, and rendered as practically useful in all the relations of business, and at the same time preserve as safe and sound a currency under forms of association under general laws, as with the aid of banks; while the community will be relieved from the dangers which are always attendant upon them.

Notwithstanding the many attempts of former Legislatures to provide a suitable militia system for the state, the result is, that the whole matter is but little else than a dead letter upon the statute book. It is evident, that, to secure the success of such a system, it must be so modified, that, while it conforms to the spirit of our institutions, it will enlist the hearty cooperation of the people. We can hardly attach too much importance to this almost exclusive arm of our defence, nor unwarily overlook contingencies which may arise when a well trained militia may constitute our sole reliance against immediate and formidable dangers. The popular and well founded jealousy of standing armies, peculiar to free governments, increases the obligation we owe to our present and future security, to cherish with great care this mighty safeguard of our institutions. A more favorable time to make another effort can hardly be expected again soon to occur, or when we can count with greater certainty upon a cheerful enlistment of the popular feeling in its favor. It seems to me, that by so changing the requisition of existing laws as to adopt the volunteer, instead of the coercive principle, which is now applied to all within certain ages, adding provisions having more immediately in view the complete and effective drill of the soldier; giving also to the superior officers adequate power to concentrate companies into larger bodies, at specified places, within prescribed districts, for a more extensive and thorough practice, will be much more likely to answer the purpose which the friends of an efficient militia system are anxious to realize.

Among the great variety of subjects which lay peculiar claim to the attention of the people and the Legislature, none rank so high, or are entitled to greater consideration, than that of the subject of our common schools. It addresses itself to every citizen of our State, from its intimate connection with the love of social, civil and religious liberty. Some of our most valuable citizens are turning their attention to the subject of common schools, with a zeal and disinterestedness worthy of high commendation; but without the assistance of the Legislature, and a cheerful co-operation on the part of the people, their labors will prove comparatively weak and insufficient. It cannot reasonably be expected, that, in the present condition of our State, with some parts of it thinly settled, any definite system can be devised, which will be absolutely perfect in its practical operations, or which can realize the utmost wishes of all. This inconvenience, however, is gradually diminishing, and in a few years, will, to a great extent, cease to exist. Complaints are frequent, that township funds in some sections of the State, are so ignorantly or willfully mismanaged as to be of little or no benefit. If these complaints be well founded, some efficient Legislative provision ought to be made to prevent such gross wrong in future.

I wish here to offer a remark in reference to an unfortunate class of persons among us, who, though few in number, are not less entitled to our commiseration; I mean the insane. While we make provisions for the poor, whether their poverty result from their vices or misfortunes, we overlook this class, whose condition is far more helpless and deplorable, and I most sincerely recommend them to the Legislature as proper subjects of our sympathy and care.

We are just entering upon the discharge of the highest and most important duties pertaining to civil government, and it is most earnestly to be hoped, that, in every vicissitude of our legislative labors, we shall keep steadily in view the Constitution of our country, and the interests of our common constituents. The principles upon which our Government is founded, are plain and simple; and by careful attention to them, our labors will hardly fail to be comparatively easy and pleasant. If we judge of the correctness of our measures by the influence which they exert upon the hopes, the fears, and interest of the people, we shall be prepared to avoid many of the most formidable difficulties which tend to embarrass legislation. Always recognizing a close community of interests, alike to be respected and observed, we shall find little difficulty in fully answering the just expectations of those whose confidence has sent us here. I shall be found ever ready to unite with the Legislature in all measures designed to advance the happiness and prosperity of our common country; and while confidently relying upon the wisdom and protection of that Divine Providence which has dispensed such numerous blessings over our highly privileged land, we may hope to end our labors here in harmony, and with the conviction of having well discharged our duties.

AUGUSTUS C. FRENCH.

Dreadful Accident at Pittsburg.

The Gazette, of Saturday last, contains the account of a terrible accident which took place in that city on the day previous. The boiler of a steam engine in the foundry of Messrs. Algeo Holland & Co. exploded with a tremendous noise, throwing the engine house into a mass of ruins. One of the boiler-heads flew out, lifted the boiler from its bed, and projected it straight across the road, fully one hundred yards, into some vacant lots, where it struck, & then bounced some fifty feet further up a hill. In its passage it struck a young man named James McClory, on the back of the head and right shoulder, smashing them into pieces. The face alone remained attached to the body by the skin of the neck. Mr. William Holland, one of the partners, who was directly in front of the boiler, had his head taken clear off. It was carried away by the boiler, and all the remains found were the scalp, the top of the skull and one ear. He was a married man, and leaves a wife and two children. He was foreman of the establishment. McClory was a pattern maker, and was running the engine at the time of the explosion. He was a single man. A boy named Wm. Wilson, 16 or 17 years of age, was struck by some missile, and also scalded—his wounds are considered mortal. Another boy, named Wm. Linton, was thrown out into the road, and scalded, but not dangerously—he is 12 or 14 years ago. A boy named Jones was also scalded.

JOLIET SIGNAL.
JOLIET, ILL.

Tuesday, December 15, 1846.

Mr. F. W. Capwell, the daguerreotypist, is now in Lockport. He is authorized to obtain subscribers for the Signal.

THE MESSAGES.

We publish in to day's paper the message of Gov. Ford on his retirement from office, and also the inaugural of Gov. French.

Governor Ford's message is brief, but contains a true history of our State affairs during the last four years. It reflects much honor upon the Governor, and should be observed as a pattern by those who elongate such documents to such a length that few ever read them. Governor Ford has had a difficult time in conducting the affairs of our State, but by his patriotism and independence, he has shown himself to be worthy of the important station he occupied. During his administration the changes which have been made in the prospects of the State, are truly gratifying. He says that it is with joy he retires from public life, but his merits are too highly appreciated by the people to permit him to enjoy his retirement for any length of time.

The message of Governor French, we hope will be read by all who take an interest in the future welfare of our State. It holds up the right policy, and its recommendations are obviously necessary. The Governor's views on banking are decidedly democratic, and we feel assured that during his administration at least, the State will not be cursed by another of those shaving machines. The message is ably written, and shows that the people have reposed their confidence and trust upon one who is abundantly worthy.

GENERAL SCOTT.—It is stated that Gen. Scott and Staff, have left Washington for the seat of war, his destination is said to be Tampico. It is reported that the new Regiment of Volunteers called for by the President are to be placed under his command. He will probably march to meet Santa Anna. If peace is not soon concluded we may expect to hear of something, before long, that will bring the Mexicans to their right minds.

NORTH CAROLINA.—Hon. W. P. Mangum has been re-elected to the United States Senate, for six years commencing on the 4th of March next, by the legislature of North Carolina.

THE IMPORTANCE OF ONE VOTE.—At the late election in New York, Mr. Burdick, of Oneida, and Mr. Montague, of Ulster, both whigs, have been elected to the Legislature by a majority of only one vote. This shows the necessity of every voter attending the polls, at each election.

John Baxter, who was to be hung at Monmouth, on the 9th inst., for being concerned in the murder of Col. Drayton, has obtained a writ of error and consequently will have the satisfaction of living a short period longer.

SMALL POX.—It is stated that this loathsome disease has made its appearance in Lake county. A family residing at Lake Zurich, in that county, have been attacked with this disease; and also, another residing on Flint Creek, about three miles from that place.

THE FAIR.—We would call attention to the notice of a Ladies Fair, which appears in another column. It is stated that a great variety of articles, of their own manufacture; and also, a large collection of articles which have been sent to them by the Ladies of Connecticut and Massachusetts, to assist them in their laudable enterprise, will be offered for sale. All should attend.

MAINE.—At the election of members to the Legislature of this State, held on the 18th ult., the democrats elected nine, and the whigs and abolitionists six—making the House now stand, democrats 67, whigs and abolitionists 67, and 16 vacancies. The Argus says that if the democracy in the vacant districts make the exertions worthy of the cause that they are engaged in, at the next trial, the question of "How is Maine," will be answered.—The democrats, undoubtedly, will have a majority on joint ballot. The official returns show the election of only three Congressmen, viz: Hommonds, democrat; Belcher, whig; and Williams, democrat.

HON. GEORGE McDUFFIE.—This distinguished statesman has sent to the Governor of South Carolina his resignation, by which the United States Senate will lose an able member.

We learn from the Washington Union that the rumor of Robert Dale Owen's appointment as minister to Brazil, is incorrect.

NOT AFRAID OF "RUIN."—A company composed of the most wealthy and intelligent citizens of Portland, Maine, has recently been formed at that place, for the manufacture of iron, under the title of the Portland Iron Company. Their capital is said to be \$250,000 and they are making arrangements for going into the manufacture of iron on a large scale.

It is said that Edmund Burke, Superintendent of the Patent Office, will resign that station, and assume the editorship of the New Hampshire Patriot.

Gov. Ford's communication to the Legislature in relation to the Mormon Difficulties, has been received, but too late to give it an insertion. It is an able document and reflects great credit on its author.

Several Whig papers in Ohio, have placed the name of Thomas Corwin at their mast heads, as a candidate for the Presidency in 1848.

LEGISLATIVE CORRESPONDENCE.
SPRINGFIELD, Dec. 7, 1846.

DEAR SIR:—As I am a looker on in this city, and have a few moments leisure, I will devote them to giving you a brief account of the proceedings of our Legislature, which convened this day.

The Senate organized by electing H. W. Moore Esq., of Gallatin, Secretary, and N. D. Elwood Esq., of your place assistant Secretary, both of whom are excellent officers and worthy of the place they fill. Wm. J. Cline Esq., of Kane, was elected sergeant-at-arms, and F. D. Preston enrollor, and engrossing clerk. Lieut. Governor Wells will probably take his place as President of the Senate in a day or two; meanwhile Hon. John Moore presides with his usual promptness.

The House of Representatives called Mr. Underwood, of St. Clair, to preside pro tem, and chose Murry McConnell, of Morgan, to act as clerk pro tem. After the members had been qualified, the House proceeded to the election of Speaker, whereupon Hon. Newton Cloud, of Morgan, received seventy-two votes and S. T. Logan (whig), of Sangamon, thirty six votes. Of course, therefore, Mr. Cloud is Speaker, and a man better qualified to discharge the responsible duties of that station could not be found. He has the entire confidence of the House.

After Mr. Cloud was conducted to his seat, he addressed the House in a brief and appropriate manner. The House then proceeded to the election of its officers. John McDonnell, of Fayette Co., was chosen Clerk, and Wm. W. Pace assistant clerk. Andrew A. Galloway, of LaSalle Co., was elected Enrolling and Engrossing clerk; John A. Wilson door-keeper, and I. G. Davidson, of Fulton, assistant. The House then sent a message to the Senate, with information they were organized and ready for business.

Gov. French has been in town some weeks, and will soon take the reins of State government into his own hands.—Gen. Cooley, of Quincy, will be Secretary of State. The Governor's health is not yet good.

Gov. Ford will deliver his last message in a day or two, and in my humble judgement, the people have reason to regret that they are so soon to lose the public services of that distinguished man. There has been no one more true to the interests of the State—none who has done more to place Illinois in a train to be relieved from her embarrassments, and no man more entitled to the lasting regard of the people in the north. His enemies have pointed at him their most malignant shafts, but all their efforts will prove insufficient to blast his well earned fame. In the person of his successor, the people have an honest man and a faithful officer.

The committees are not yet announced. The important ones of the session will be those on Finance, on Canal Lands, on Apportionment and on the Judiciary. It will be impossible to say who will be at the head of those committees, until the announcement shall be made. That on Canal and Canal Lands is as important as any to the north.

Should I remain here any length of time, you may hear from me again.

Yours, &c.,
OREGON.

SPRINGFIELD, Dec. 8, 1846.

MESSRS. ZARLEY.—The two branches of the Legislature were organized yesterday. In the Senate, Mr. Henry Moore, of Gallatin Co., was

elected Secretary, and Nelson D. Elwood, of your County, Assistant Secretary; Finny D. Preston, of Washak Co., enrolling and engrossing Clerk; and William J. Cline, of Kane Co., Sergeant at Arms; the first three gentlemen were elected without opposition. The House elected Newton Cloud, of Morgan Co., Speaker; John McDonald, Principal Clerk; Wm. W. Pace, Assistant Clerk; A. J. Galloway, Enrolling and Engrossing Clerk; J. A. Wilson, Principal, and I. G. Davidson, Assistant Door Keeper.

To-day at 2 o'clock, His Excellency, Governor Ford, sent in his valedictory message to the Senate, which after being read, was laid on the table, and 5000 copies ordered to be printed.

By a joint resolution of the two Houses, the votes given for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, at the last August election, are to be canvassed in presence of the two Houses, at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning—after which will follow the inauguration of the Governor elect, his message, the appointment of Committees in both Houses, and then for business.

K.
SPRINGFIELD, Dec. 10th, 1846.

DEAR SIR:—We have in this town, snow and sleet, mud and rain, cold and warm weather, all at once, and all together. At this moment, a little snow blankets the earth, but how it may be an hour hence is very uncertain.

Yesterday the Senate met the House in the Representative Hall, to canvass the Electoral returns, and to witness the inauguration of Governor French and Wells. The inaugural address of the Governor elect, is considered a very creditable document; and so far as his views concerning future policy are shadowed forth in it, they are considered sound. No man is more friendly to the Canal than Gov. French. He seems to possess in a good degree the confidence of all parties.

The forenoon of to-day, in the House, was occupied in discussing a motion to print a copy of the Governor's address in the German language. By the Whigs and some of the Democrats it was moved, on the ground of expense, while those same men occupied sufficient time of the House, to cost the State five times as much as the whole printing of the message will cost. And finally it was ordered by a large majority that two thousand numbers of the document should be printed in the German language. This is right. The Germans are settling in our country—they are industrious and worthy citizens; and by all means, every opportunity for making them acquainted with our institutions should be improved. In this way they may be induced to study our language—to assimilate themselves to our manners and customs, and to become attached as strongly as an "American Citizen," to our government and laws.

The Senate and House this day resolved to meet together, and go into the election of a United States Senator, on Saturday next. Judge Douglas will doubtless be the favored man.

As usual, there are some gentlemen who are disposed to devote the first few days of the session to "bucconism"; still there is less of that spirit manifested than has sometimes heretofore been exhibited. A general disposition prevails to make the session as short as possible. But their can be accomplished by way of Legislation until the Committees are appointed, which has not yet been done—though it is understood that they will be announced soon.

Lieut. Gov. Moore made an affecting farewell address to the Senate yesterday, on his retiring from his post as Speaker. Lieut. Gov. Wells then took his place, and delivered an appropriate address to the honorable body over which he is to preside.

Yours, &c.,
OREGON.

From the N. Y. Herald.

Particulars of the wreck of the Steamer Atlantic.

ON WEDNESDAY THE 25TH OF NOVEMBER.

It is with feelings of the most painful nature that we find ourselves constrained to publish the particulars of the loss of the once magnificent steamer Atlantic, and about forty lives. She had, comparatively, a small number of passengers. If she had been crowded as she usually has been more dreadful and terrible in its results.

The passengers for this ill-fated steamer left Boston at half past five o'clock on Wednesday afternoon. They proceeded over the Worcester and Norwich Road, and reached Allyn's Point at half past eleven on that night. There they went on board the Atlantic. She left for New York between twelve and one o'clock on Thursday morning.

There were between seventy and eighty persons on board in all, including passengers, officers, crew, and servants.

The Atlantic got well underway, and was running along finely, when the steam chest exploded, and almost at the same moment the wind shifted from the northeast to the north-west, and blew almost a perfect hurricane.

The steamer was thrown into the midst of darkness and confusion, and the air resounded with the cries of the scalded. It was a frightful scene to behold. Capt. Duxton instantly called all hands to the fore deck, and ordered them to heave over the anchors, but it was found almost impossible for a man to stand on deck, in consequence of the violence of the gale, the sea continually making a breach over her bows. Owing to this, it took nearly an hour to get out the three anchors.

The steamer worked heavy, plunging her bows under at every lurch, and dragging her anchors. Between the time of anchoring and daylight, it is thought that she dragged about eleven miles. This was a terrible time to all on board.

The fires were all put out at daylight, on Thursday, and from that time to the period of going ashore the passengers and crew suffered from the intense cold. The only means of keeping warm, was to wrap themselves in blankets, and walk briskly around the steamer.

All, at this time, began to look to their own personal safety. All put on their life preservers, that the ship was plentifully supplied with, and prepared themselves for any emergency. The doors, shutters, settees, &c., &c. were detached and cut away, for rafts to drift ashore upon, when ever she would strike.

The gale increasing in violence, Capt. Duxton having preserved his self-possession throughout the perilous time, ordered about forty tons of coal to be thrown over-